

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Acting Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 13 August 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. The Qualifications Review Panel which met last week approved the applications of three employees for external Arabic training, one for the LAS full-time Arabic course, and one for the LAS full-time Chinese course.

2. LAS has received a request from NE to schedule a new Basic part-time course in Turkish in September. We had originally scheduled Phase III of an earlier Basic course to begin in September, but could if desirable change to Phase I. Our Turkish courses have had a high rate of attrition in the past, in spite of the fact that they are given in I Building, and this has been pointed out to [redacted] F
His comment was that there were good reasons for the withdrawal of those concerned and that this was "something we would have to live with". We plan, despite this lack of assurance about the future, to meet NE's request for the new beginners' course, with some stronger strictures about cancellation if enrollment drops below minimum.

25X1
3. [redacted] has shown great interest in the two slots we were offered by FSI for their full-time Thai course this September, to the extent of absolutely guaranteeing two bodies. We have informed FSI of our acceptance of the slots, and are now awaiting final word as to whether they are still available. F

25X1
4. We have had no word on the clearance of any of the prospective Arabic instructors, and this leads us to face the necessity for offering our full-time Arabic course somewhat later in the fall than had been our intention. Not knowing when we might count on an instructor, we have not yet been able to announce a definite date. Incidentally, there appears to be some misunderstanding, possibly as a result of Mr. Bissell's directive on this subject, about the course to be given by LAS. In a F

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1 conversation with [] expressed considerable
25X1 surprise on learning that we are planning to offer the course in the
25X1 regular way, that is, open to any qualified Agency employee. []
view had been that, since NE has been directed to hire and place in the
field anyone who successfully completes the course, all candidates for
the course should be screened by NE.

25X1 5. The Basic German (FT) class spent four days of last week at
25X1 [] accompanied by [] of LAS.
25X1 [] acted as chaperone and contributed greatly to the
success of the trip.

25X1 6. [] has been working on revised budget estimates for the
VLTP during FY 1960. These figures, which show a considerable saving in
the VLTP over the amounts shown in the official OTR estimates, are being
held for discussion with the D/TR upon his return.

25X1 7. [] informs us that Personnel has approved our
25X1 use of [] on a part-time basis for typing Russian, Polish
and German. A contract has been signed, but this will not be counted
25X1 against our ceiling. [] has completed typing of the Polish Area
Reader and is now working on some Russian structural drills. She
receives fifty cents per double-spaced page.

25X1 8. An article []
25X1 [] appearing in the February 1959 Foreign Service Journal,
was included in the printed "Hearing before a Subcommittee of the
Committee on Foreign Relations on Improvement in Standards of Language
Proficiency and in Recruiting for the Foreign Service", April 16, 1959.
This was part of the material in support of the Saltonstall Bill S.1243
to establish standards of foreign language proficiency for the Foreign
Service of the United States.

25X1 9. [] TO/OSI, has informed us that six students from his
office are scheduled to enroll in Basic Russian Reading (I), four in
Basic Russian Reading (II), two in Scientific Russian Reading, and three
in the Seminars.

25X1 10. [] are re-organizing somewhat the structure of
Basic Russian Reading (I and II), with a view to reducing the grammatical
content and increasing the amount of material intended for practice in
reading. Although the same texts will be used as in previous years,
supplementary mimeographed sheets will be handed the students embodying
the above features.

11. Two persons from SR and one from AF are now receiving special
part-time training in spoken Russian. This training is expected to
continue until about the middle of September.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

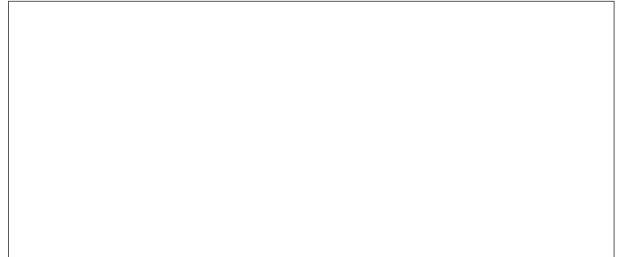
12. [] interviewed a prospective French instructor - []
The quality of French is native and the availability is Part-Time.

25X1

25X1

25X1

13. A rush typing job in French was done for []
[] of the Romance Language Department. The 20 page document was
reproduced in record time.



CONFIDENTIAL